

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 TOKYO 03741 220444Z

11

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NASA-04 NSC-07 RSC-01 DRC-01 /070 W

----- 049337

R 220400Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 737

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TOKYO 3741

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: TSPA, JA, US

SUBJ: SPACE COOPERATION - NASA LAUNCH SERVICE ASSISTANCE TO
JAPAN

1. NASDA OFFICIALS (FURUYA AND KURODA) CALLED ON SCICOUNS ON MAY 20 TO REVIEW RESULTS OF RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH NASA ON MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING RE LAUNCHING SERVICES. FURUYA EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR NASA ATTENTION AND GENERAL SATISFACTION WITH RESULTS, BUT INDICATED THAT ONE IMPORTANT PROBLEM EMERGED FROM DISCUSSION. THIS IS NASA DECISION NOT RPT NOT TO MOVE JAPANESE SATELITE, INCLUDING EVEN EARLIEST ONE (GMSS), INTO GEOSTATIONARY ORBIT.

2. ACCORDING TO FURUYA, ALTHOUGH ORIGINAL DRAFT MOU PROVIDED BY NASA INDICATED THAT NASA WOULD PLACE SATELITE INTO GEOSTATIONARY ORBIT IF SO REQUESTED BY NASDA, NASA HAS NOW REACHED HIGH LEVEL DECISION NOT TO OFFER THIS OPTION. INSTEAD, NASA SUGGESTED THAT JAPANESE EITHER PERFORM THIS OPERATION THEMSELVES, OR CONTRACT WITH US FIRM TO DO SO. EITHER ALTERNATIVE, OF COURSE, WOULD INVOLVE INSTALLATION OF SUITABLE COMMAND AND TELEMETER FACILITIES IN JAPAN, WHICH NASA POINTS OUT WILL BE REQUIRED IN ANY EVENT IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN SATELLITE ON STATION. IN SUPPORT OF POSITION, ACCORDING TO FURUYA, NASA EXPLAINED THAT BUDGETRY AND PERSONNEL LIMITATIONS AT CONTINUALLY DECREASING NUMBER OF TRACKING STATIONS WAS PLACING HEAVY BURDEN ON STATIONS WHICH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 TOKYO 03741 220444Z

MILITATES AGAINST ACCEPTING RESPONSIBILITY FOR PLACEMENT OF

ANY FOREIGN SATELLITES IN GEOSTATIONARY ORBIT. WHILE THIS IS A HIGH-LEVEL DECISION, FURUYA STATED THAT NASA INDICATED THAT REQUEST FOR EXCEPTION FROM SHIMA, NASDA PRESIDENT, TO DR. FLETCHER WOULD BE GIVEN CONSIDERATION.

3. NASDA OFFICIALS UNDERSTAND THAT THEY WILL EVENTUALLY REQUIRE OWN CAPABILITY FOR PLACEMENT OF SATELLITES IN GEOSTATIONARY ORBIT AND THEIR PLANS INCLUDE ACQUISITION OF THIS CAPABILITY. FOR EXAMPLE, FIRST GEOSTATIONARY STELLITE TO BE LAUNCHED BY JAPAN ITSELF, ITS-II, WILL OBVIOUSLY HAVE TO BE MOVED TO SYNCHRONOUS ORBIT BY JAPAN ITSELF, BUT THIS LAUNCHING WILL COME LATER THAN DECEMBER 1976 LAUNCH DATE FOR GMSS. JAPANESE ARE OBVIOUSLY RELUCTANT TO ENTRUST FINAL PLACEMENT OF COSTLY APPLICATIONS SATELLITES TO THEIR OWN UNTRIED CAPABILITIES, OR TO UNTESTED FACILITIES IN JAPAN EVEN THOUGH OPERATED BY US CONTRACTOR.

4. EMBASSY APPRECIATES THAT THERE ARE REAL PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH ACCEPTANCE BY NASA OF ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBIOITY AND OPERATIONAL BURDEN OF PLACING SATELLITES LAUNCHED FOR JAPAN INTO SYNCHRONOUS ORBIT. IN ADDITION, IT WOULD APPEAR FROM NAPANESE DESCRIPTION OF DISCUSSION THAT DESIRE TO ALLOW US INDUSTRY TO SECURE BENEFITS OF PROVIDING THIS SERVICE MAY BE INVOLVED IN NASA DECISION. NEVERTHELESS, ON FACE OF ISSUE, IT WOULD SEEM THAT THERE ARE SUBSTANTIAL BENEFITS TO US IN PROVIDING COMPLETE LAUNCH SERVICES, INCLUDING GEOSTATIONARY PLACEMENT SERVICES, BASIS FOR WHICH IS DIFFICULT FOR CUSTOMER TO UNDERSTAND, UNQUESTIONABLY INCREASE JAPANESE INCENTIVES AND DTERMINATION TO ACQUIRE INDEPENDENT LAUNCH CAPABILITIES AT EARLIEST DATE. AS SEEN FROM HERE, US INTERESTS WOULD BE BEST SERVED BY ADOPTING ALL REASONABLE MEASURES TO MINIMIZE THESE INCENTIVES AND MAKING US LAUNCH LAUNCH SERVICES MOST ATTRACTIVE ALTERNATIVE TO JAPANESE BACK-GROUND INFORMATION ON THIS ISSUE, AND ADVICE AS TO WHETHER REQUEST BY SHIMA TO DR. FLETCHER LIKELY TO RECEIVE AFFIRMATIVE RESPONSE. AS DEPT IS AWARE SOME ASSURANCE THAT POSOTIVE RESPONSE WILL BE FORTHCOMING.
SHOESMITH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, SPACECRAFT, SPACE PROBES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TOKYO03741
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740061-0012
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740320/aaaaathm.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SCI
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JUL 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <30 JUL 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SPACE COOPERATION - NASA LAUNCH SERVICE ASSISTANCE TO JAPAN
TAGS: TSPA, JA, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005